(b) whether Employees' Provident Fund Commissioner has approved restructuring of its outstanding amount against IFCI and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the amount of Provident Fund including the interest thereon is likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) The investment of Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in IFCI as on 31.10.2004 was Rs.1021.18 crores.

(b) Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its 166th meeting held on 23.02.2004 approved the restructuring of Non Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) Bonds of IFCI Ltd. amounting to Rs. 1006.85 crores. For statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) Bonds of IFCI amounting to Rs.14.33 crores as on 31.10.2004, restructuring of debts was not envisaged and IFCI is making payment of interest and principal as per contractual obligations.

(c) Restructured debts of IFCI will mature as under:-

Rs.250 crores each on 20.4.2013,20.7.2013 and 20.10.2013, and balance amount of Rs.256.85 crores on 20.01.2014. Interest is payable by IFCI annually @9.25% or at the rate of interest declared/paid by Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund under Para 60(1) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 whichever is higher.

Suggestion to bring PF Institution under PMO

†2292. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a suggestion for bringing an important institution like Provident Fund Organisation under the Prime Minister's Office;

(b) whether Government propose to inquire into the serious allegations levelled by the former Commissioner against the concerned Minister;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government are considering to conduct a high level inquiry into working of the Organisation; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if not, the plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The former Central Provident Fund Commissioner has not levelled any such allegations.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Employees Provident Fund Organisation is running smoothly and effectively and as such there is no proposal to inquire into the working of the organisation.

Problems of women workers

2293. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to survey conducted by National Commission for Women, women workers in construction industry are getting a raw deal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to redress the problems of women workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the need to ameliorate the working conditions of women workers in construction industry. Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 have been enacted for protecting the interest of workers including those of women workers. Besides this, the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and Building and Other Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 provide for regulation of employment and conditions of service of the construction workers, including women workers. These Acts address safety and health concern of the workers and provide for immediate assistance to beneficiaries in case accident, pension benefits, premium for Group Insurance Scheme, loans and advances for construction of house, assistance for education of children, medical expenses, maternity benefits to female workers, etc.